

Remarks/Arguments

This application has been carefully considered in connection with the Examiner's Action. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the following.

A. Summary of Applicants Amendment

This application was originally filed with Claims 1-145. Of these, Claims 1, 7, 10-17, 27-31, 33, 36, 41, 44, 49, 52, 54-56, 69-75, 79, 81-82, 103-107, 110 and 125-131 have been amended. Further, Claims 6, 9, 18-26, 37-40, 45-48, 53, 76 and 78 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Finally, new Claims 146-152 have been added. Accordingly, Claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-17, 27-36, 41-44, 49-52, 54-75, 77 and 79-152 are pending before the Examiner.

B. The Rejection of Claims 1-145

Claims 1-145 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 6,975,220 to Foodman, et al. In response, the Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection and instead submit that Claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-17, 27-36, 41-44, 49-52, 54-75, 77 and 79-145, as above amended, as well as new Claims 146-148, are neither taught nor suggested by Foodman, et al., whether taken alone or in combination with one or more of the cited references. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-144 and the allowance of Claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-17, 27-36, 41-44, 49-52, 54-75, 77 and 79-152.

The present application is directed to a security system for monitoring a premises. As disclosed and claimed herein, the security system includes at least one device for collecting alarm information at the monitored premises, a monitoring computer workstation and an emergency response computer workstation. Applicants' security system is uniquely configured to operate in two distinct modes. In one, the monitoring computer workstation actively controls the operation of the alarm information collection device(s). In the other, the emergency response computer

workstation actively controls operation of the alarm information collection device(s). To accomplish the foregoing, the monitoring computer workstation is further configured to cede active control of the operation of the alarm information collection device(s) to the emergency response computer workstation and the emergency response computer workstation is configured to assume active control of the operation of the alarm information collection device(s) upon the monitoring computer workstation ceding control of the devices.

The Examiner asserts that, as originally presented, Applicants' claimed limitations related to the computer workstation being configured to cede control of the alarm information collection device[s] are "met by the central monitor (31) having the capability of controlling any of the devices in the system." Examiner's Action dated January 17, 2006, page 5, lines 17-20. In support thereof, the Examiner cites column 8, lines 11-19 of Foodman et al., which provides that:

"[i]t is possible for an authorized entity to perform a variety of functions on system 311 by accessing system 311 through website 321. Examples of such functions are activating or deactivation [sic] system 311, checking the status of system 311, checking the status of a particular sensor to determine temperature at temperature sensor 12, fuel level at a fuel level sensor (not shown), or other functions such as a history of past events that may be stored and accessed by system controller 21."

As to the identity of the entities authorized to access system 311, the Applicants note that that column 7, lines 21-28 of Foodman et al. provides that:

[a] website 321 is used to post the data transmission so that it may be viewed and evaluated on website 321. Website 321 may be accessed by a variety of authorized viewers including but not limited to the premises owner from any remote location 323, a police department 325, a fire department 327, an emergency medical service 329, the premises owner 339 from a permanent designated site, or any other entity 331 authorized by the user of security system 311.

The foregoing passages clearly indicate that Foodman et al. teaches that an authorized entity, for example, police department 325, may access the system 311 to perform a variety of functions. Nowhere, however, does Foodman et al. disclose that one authorized entity may access the system

to the exclusion of another authorized entity. Rather, Foodman et al. clearly contemplates that all of the authorized entities are capable of accessing the system at any time. In contrast, Applicants' claimed security system is uniquely configured such that one authorized entity, for example, the first emergency response computer workstation, is capable of actively controlling the alarm information collection device(s) only after the monitoring computer workstation has ceded active control of the alarm information collection device(s) to the emergency response computer workstation. Thus, while Foodman et al. discloses a system in which, at a given point in time, multiple authorized entities are capable of accessing devices located at the premises, Applicants' invention is directed to a security system in which, at a given point in time, only one of the multiple authorized entities is capable of actively controlling the alarm information collection device(s).

C. Concluding Remarks

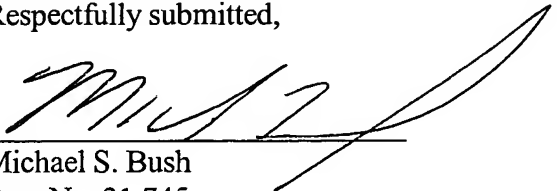
It is submitted that Foodman et al. neither teaches nor suggests Applicants' invention as disclosed and claimed herein. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-145 and the allowance of Claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-17, 27-36, 41-44, 49-52, 54-75, 77 and 79-152.

This application is now in condition for allowance. A prompt Notice to that effect is, therefore, earnestly solicited.

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